

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 1-34~~ wherein the first lateral dimension is greater than the diameter of the gas cylinder.
3. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 1-34~~ wherein the support element further comprises at least one aperture therethrough.
4. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 3~~ wherein the at least one aperture is threaded.
5. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 4~~ wherein the at least one fastener is threaded.
6. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 5~~ wherein the fastener is a thumb screw.
7. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 5~~ wherein the at least one fastener is threadably inserted into the at least one aperture.
8. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 5~~ wherein the at least one fastener is provided with a point at an end thereof for engaging the base ring.
9. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 7~~ wherein the at least one fastener is insertable into at least one base ring aperture.
10. (Currently amended)) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 1-35~~ wherein the support element comprises a continuous support ring.
11. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base of claim 10~~ wherein the support ring terminates along an inner edge in a radially-inwardly sloping chamfered end.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base~~ of claim ~~1~~34 wherein the base skirt is circular.

15. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly ~~base~~ of claim ~~1~~34 wherein the support element is coaxial with the base skirt.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim ~~17~~33 wherein the diameter of the base skirt is greater than the diameter of the gas cylinder.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim ~~21~~33 wherein the fastener is a thumb screw.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim ~~21~~33 wherein the at least one fastener is provided with a point at an end thereof for engaging the base ring.

25. (Original) The gas cylinder support assembly of claim 24 wherein the at least one fastener is inserted into the at least one base ring aperture.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (New) A gas cylinder support assembly comprising:

a gas cylinder having a base ring attached thereto comprising at least one threaded base ring aperture therethrough; and

a gas cylinder base comprising:

a base skirt having a first lateral dimension; and

a support element extending upwardly from the base skirt, defining a second lateral dimension less than the first lateral dimension, and adapted to slidably receive the base ring of the gas cylinder, the support element comprising at least one threaded aperture therethrough and at least one threaded fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder;

wherein the at least one fastener is adapted to engage the base ring to attach the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder and the at least one fastener is threadably inserted into the at least one aperture.

34. (New) A gas cylinder support assembly comprising:

a gas cylinder having a base ring attached thereto comprising at least one base ring aperture therethrough; and

a gas cylinder base comprising:

a base skirt having a first lateral dimension; and

a support element comprising a continuous support ring extending upwardly from the base skirt, terminating along an inner edge in a radially-inwardly sloping chamfered

end, defining a second lateral dimension less than the first lateral dimension, and adapted to slidably receive the base ring of the gas cylinder;

the support element comprising at least one fastener adapted to engage the base ring for attaching the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder.

35. (New) A gas cylinder support assembly comprising:

a gas cylinder having a base ring attached thereto comprising at least one threaded base ring aperture therethrough; and

a gas cylinder base comprising:

a circular base skirt having a first lateral dimension; and

a support element coaxial with and extending upwardly from the base skirt, defining a second lateral dimension less than the first lateral dimension, and adapted to slidably receive the base ring of the gas cylinder, the support element comprising at least one threaded aperture therethrough and at least one threaded fastener for attaching the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder;

wherein the at least one fastener is adapted to engage the base ring to attach the gas cylinder base to the gas cylinder and the at least one fastener is threadably inserted into the at least one aperture.